

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 13 without prejudice, and amend claims 1,
10-11, 14-15 and 21 as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
2 a display buffer that is configured to facilitate a rendering
3 of a display area to a display device, and
4 a window manager, ~~operably~~ coupled to the display buffer,
5 having an active area ~~that is larger than the display area, and is~~
6 configured to: ~~facilitate a visual representation of objects in the~~
7 ~~display area, via a mapping of the display area to locations of the~~
8 ~~objects in the active area,~~
9 wherein
10 ~~the active area is dynamically reconfigurable via a user input~~
11 present a visual representation of a subset of the active
12 area, wherein the subset of the active area is visually represented
13 as a plurality of passageways that facilitate navigation and access
14 to objects of the window manager,
15 provide one or more tools to facilitate receipt of user input
16 for modifying the plurality of passageways, and

17 modify the visual representation of the subset of the active
18 area corresponding to the user input.

1 2.(Original) The computer system of claim 1, wherein
2 the active area is arbitrarily shaped.

1 3.(Original) The computer system of claim 1, wherein
2 the active area includes
3 one or more connected regions that facilitate
4 navigation and access to the objects, via a relocation of the
5 display area relative to the active area.

1 4.(Original) The computer system of claim 3, wherein
2 the active area further includes
3 one or more blocking regions that limit the
4 navigation and access to the objects.

1 5.(Original) The computer system of claim 4, wherein
2 the one or more connected regions are illustrated in the
3 display area as passageways through the one or more blocking
4 regions.

1 6.(Original) The computer system of claim 5, wherein
2 the user input for dynamic reconfiguration of the active
3 area includes a modification of the passageways.

1 7.(Original) The computer system of claim 6, wherein
2 the modification of the passageways is effected via a
3 movement of one of the objects into the one or more blocking
4 regions.

1 8.(Original) The computer system of claim 3, wherein
2 access to one or more regions of the connected regions is
3 selectively controlled.

1 9.(Original) The computer system of claim 8, wherein
2 the access is selectively controlled based on at least
3 one of:
4 a size of the region,
5 a portal to the region,
6 a shape of the region, and

an orientation of the region.

10. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 1,
wherein

the window manager is further configured to provide a
representation of a ~~substantially larger~~ portion of the active area
to the display buffer, to facilitate movement of the display area
relative to the active area.

11. (Currently Amended) A user interface to a windows
management system, comprising

a visual representation of a display area that is a
subset of an active area of the windows management system,

wherein

the subset of the active area is represented as a
plurality of ~~connected~~ passageways that facilitate navigation and
access to objects ~~within the active area~~ of the windows management
system which is configured to:

provide one or more tools to facilitate receipt of user input
for modifying the plurality of passageways, and
modify a visual representation of the subset of the active

13 | area corresponding to the user input.

1 12.(Original) The user interface of claim 11, wherein
2 the subset of the active area is further represented as
3 including one or more blocking regions that limit the navigation
4 and access to the objects.

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

1 14.(Currently Amended) The user interface of ~~claim 13~~ claim
2 11, wherein
3 the one or more ~~user-controllable~~ tools include:
4 a drawing tool, and
5 an object-moving tool.

1 15.(Currently Amended) The user interface of claim 11,
2 wherein
3 ~~one or more passageways~~ at least one of the ~~connected~~
4 plurality of passageways includes an associated access-control
5 parameter that limits the navigation and access to the objects

6 within the active area.

1 16.(Original) The user interface of claim 15, wherein
2 the access-control parameter is based on at least one of:
3 a size of the one or more passageways,
4 a portal to the one or more passageways,
5 a shape of the one or more passageways, and
6 an orientation of the one or more passageways.

1 17.(Original) A method for dynamically configuring an active
2 area of a windows management system, comprising:
3 presenting a visual representation of a subset of the active
4 area, wherein the subset of the active area is visually represented
5 as a plurality of passageways that facilitate navigation and access
6 to objects of the windows management system, and
7 providing one or more tools to facilitate receipt of user
8 input for modifying the plurality of passageways, and
9 modifying the visual representation of the subset of the
10 active area corresponding to the user input.

1 18.(Original) The method of claim 17, wherein
2 the one or more tools include:
3 a drawing tool, and
4 an object-moving tool.

1 19.(Original) The method of claim 17, further including
2 selectively preventing user access to the one or more tools
3 for modifying the plurality of passageways.

1 20.(Original) The method of claim 17, further including
2 limiting navigation and access to the objects, based on
3 characteristics associated with the plurality of passageways.

1 21.(Currently Amended) A windows management system,
2 comprising:
3 a user interface, and
4 a window manager, ~~operably~~-coupled to the user interface, that
5 is configured to:

6 ~~to receive user input from the user interface for~~
7 ~~controlling placement of objects within an active area, and~~
8 ~~placement of access passageways to the objects, and~~

9 ~~_____ to maintain an active area map corresponding to the~~
10 ~~placement of the objects, and the placement of the access~~
11 ~~passageways,~~

12 ~~wherein the active area map is configured to be unbounded,~~
13 ~~thereby allowing for a dynamic configuration of the active area~~
14 ~~map, based on the placement of the objects and the access~~
15 ~~passageways~~

16 present a visual representation of a subset of an active area,
17 wherein the subset of the active area is visually represented as a
18 plurality of passageways that facilitate navigation and access to
19 objects of the window manager,

20 provide one or more tools to facilitate receipt of user input
21 for modifying the plurality of passageways, and

22 modify the visual representation of the subset of the active
23 area corresponding to the user input.

1 22.(Original) The windows management system of claim 21,

2 wherein

3 the window manager is further configured to provide a mapping
4 between the active area map and a display area corresponding to a
5 subset of the active area map to produce a bit-map image of the
6 display area in a display buffer.

1 23.(Original) The windows management system of claim 22,
2 wherein

3 the window manager is further configured to provide bit-map
4 images of the objects to the display buffer, based on a set of
5 object definitions.

1 24.(Original) The windows management system of claim 21,
2 wherein

3 the window manager is further configured to limit subsequent
4 access to the objects, based on the placement of the access
5 passageways.

1 25.(Original) The windows management system of claim 24,

2 wherein

3 the window manager is further configured to limit subsequent
4 access to the objects, based on at least one of:

5 a size of the access passageways,

6 a portal to the access passageways,

7 a shape of the access passageways, and

8 an orientation of the access passageways.